GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:219
ANSWERED ON:17.07.2017
Student Death and Dropout in IITs
Gandhi Dr. Dharam Vira

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government is aware of the number of student' deaths and drop out rates of Indian Institutes of Technology (IITs);
(b) if so, the details of such instances reported in the current year, Institution-wise and the reasons therefor; and
(c) whether the students in IITs are encouraged to join de-stressing and other motivational/ psychological activities for total personality development and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(DR. MAHENDRA NATH PANDEY)

(a) to (c) : During the current academic year, 8 cases of death have been reported, which include 4 unnatural and 4 accidental deaths in various IITs. IITs have been taking various steps such as appointment of Student Counselors, organizing Workshops/Seminars on Happiness/Wellness, regular sessions on Yoga, holding induction programs, extracurricular activities including sports and cultural activities etc. to de-stress the students and for their overall personality development. As regards drop-outs, a total of 889 students dropped out from various pgorammes in IITs, which include 630 in Postgraduate, 196 in Ph.D and 63 in Undergraduate programmes. The main reasons for Ph.D. and Postgraduate students leaving the courses midway are the offers for placement in Public Sector Enterprises, and personal preference for better opportunities elsewhere. The drop out in Undergraduate programmes is attributed to withdrawal due to wrong choices filled, poor performance and personal reasons. Details of deaths and drop-outs in each IITs are annexed.
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